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Attorneys for Debtors and Debtors in Possession

## UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

In re : Chapter 11 : SEARS HOLDINGS CORPORATION, et al., : Case No. 18-23538 (RDD) : Upon the control of the co

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The Debtors in these chapter 11 cases, along with the last four digits of each Debtor's federal tax identification number, are as follows: Sears Holdings Corporation (0798); Kmart Holding Corporation (3116); Kmart Operations LLC (6546); Sears Operations LLC (4331); Sears, Roebuck and Co. (0680); ServiceLive Inc. (6774); SHC Licensed Business LLC (3718); A&E Factory Service, LLC (6695); A&E Home Delivery, LLC (0205); A&E Lawn & Garden, LLC (5028); A&E Signature Service, LLC (0204); FBA Holdings Inc. (6537); Innovel Solutions, Inc. (7180); Kmart Corporation (9500); MaxServ, Inc. (7626); Private Brands, Ltd. (4022); Sears Development Co. (6028); Sears Holdings Management Corporation (2148); Sears Home & Business Franchises, Inc. (6742); Sears Home Improvement Products, Inc. (8591); Sears Insurance Services, L.L.C. (7182); Sears Procurement Services, Inc. (2859); Sears Protection Company (1250); Sears Protection Company (PR) Inc. (4861); Sears Roebuck Acceptance Corp. (0535); SR – Rover de Puerto Rico, LLC (f/k/a Sears, Roebuck de Puerto Rico, Inc.) (3626); SYW Relay LLC (1870); Wally Labs LLC (None); SHC Promotions LLC (9626); Big Beaver of Florida Development, LLC (None); California Builder Appliances, Inc. (6327); Florida Builder Appliances, Inc. (9133); KBL Holding Inc. (1295); KLC, Inc. (0839); Kmart of Michigan, Inc. (1696); Kmart of Washington LLC (8898); Kmart Stores of Illinois LLC (8897); Kmart Stores of Texas LLC (8915); MyGofer LLC (5531); Sears Brands Business Unit Corporation (4658); Sears Holdings Publishing Company, LLC. (5554); Sears Protection Company (Florida), L.L.C. (4239); SHC Desert Springs, LLC (None); SOE, Inc. (9616); StarWest, LLC (5379); STI Merchandising, Inc. (0188); Troy Coolidge No. 13, LLC (None); BlueLight.com, Inc. (7034); Sears Brands, L.L.C. (4664); Sears Buying Services, Inc. (6533); Kmart.com LLC (9022); Sears Brands Management Corporation (5365); and SRe Holding Corporation (4816). The location of the Debtors' corporate headquarters is 3333 Beverly Road, Hoffman Estates, Illinois 60179.

# CERTIFICATE OF NO OBJECTION REGARDING APPLICATION OF DEBTORS FOR ENTRY OF ORDER AUTHORIZING THE EMPLOYMENT AND RETENTION OF KATTEN MUCHIN ROSENMAN LLP AS SPECIAL AVOIDANCE ACTION COUNSEL FOR DEBTORS, EFFECTIVE NUNC PRO TUNC TO APRIL 1, 2019

TO THE HONORABLE ROBERT D. DRAIN UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY JUDGE:

Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1746 and Rule 9075-2 of the Local Bankruptcy Rules for the Southern District of New York, the undersigned hereby certifies as follows:

- 1. Beginning on October 15, 2018 (the "Commencement Date") and continuing thereafter, each of Sears Holdings Corporation and its debtor affiliates, as debtors and debtors in possession in the above-captioned chapter 11 cases (collectively, the "Debtors") commenced with this Court a voluntary case under chapter 11 of title 11 of the United States Code.
- 2. On June 6, 2019, the Debtors filed the Application of Debtors for Entry of Order Authorizing the Employment and Retention of Katten Muchin Rosenman LLP as Special Avoidance Action Counsel for Debtors, Effective Nunc Pro Tunc to April 1, 2019 (ECF No. 4138) (the "Application").
- 3. The Debtors served the Application as reflected in the affidavit of service filed at ECF No. 4193.
- 4. The Application established a deadline (the "Objection Deadline") for parties to object or file responses to the Application for June 13, 2019 at 4:00 p.m. (prevailing Eastern Time). The Amended Order Implementing Certain Notice and Case Management Procedures, entered on November 1, 2018 (ECF No. 405) (the "Amended Case Management Order") provides that a motion or application may be granted without a hearing, provided that no objections or other responsive pleadings have been filed after the passage of the Objection Deadline and the attorney for the entity who filed the pleadings complies with the terms of the Amended Case Management Order.

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5. The Objection Deadline has passed and, to the best of my knowledge, no

objection, responsive pleading, or request for a hearing with respect to the Application has been

(a) filed with the Court on the docket of the above-captioned case or (b) served on counsel to the

Debtors.

6. Accordingly, the Debtors respectfully request that the proposed order

granting the relief requested in the Application, annexed hereto as Exhibit A, be entered in

accordance with the Amended Case Management Order.

I declare that the foregoing is true and correct.

Dated: June 18, 2019

New York, New York

/s/ Garrett A. Fail

WEIL, GOTSHAL & MANGES LLP

767 Fifth Avenue

New York, New York 10153

Telephone: (212) 310-8000

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Ray C. Schrock, P.C.

Jacqueline Marcus

Garrett A. Fail

Sunny Singh

Attorneys for Debtors and Debtors in Possession

#### Exhibit A

**Proposed Order** 

UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY	COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW	YORK

In re : Chapter 11

SEARS HOLDINGS CORPORATION, et al.,

Debtors.<sup>1</sup>

Case No. 18-23538 (RDD)

: (Jointly Administered)

: ------x

## ORDER AUTHORIZING THE EMPLOYMENT AND RETENTION OF KATTEN MUCHIN ROSEMAN LLP AS SPECIAL AVOICANCE COUNSEL FOR DEBTORS NUNC PRO TUNC TO APRIL 1, 2019

Upon consideration of the application (the "**Application**")<sup>2</sup> of the Debtors for entry of an order (this "**Order**") authorizing the Debtors to retain and employ Katten Muchin Roseman LLP ("**Katten**") as special avoidance action counsel for Debtors *nunc pro tunc* to April 1, 2019, on the terms and conditions set forth herein and in the engagement agreement between Katten and Sears Holdings Corporation dated as of April 1, 2019 (the "**Engagement Letter**") and granting

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The Debtors in these chapter 11 cases, along with the last four digits of each Debtor's federal tax identification number, are as follows: Sears Holdings Corporation (0798); Kmart Holding Corporation (3116); Kmart Operations LLC (6546); Sears Operations LLC (4331); Sears, Roebuck and Co. (0680); ServiceLive Inc. (6774); SHC Licensed Business LLC (3718); A&E Factory Service, LLC (6695); A&E Home Delivery, LLC (0205); A&E Lawn & Garden, LLC (5028); A&E Signature Service, LLC (0204); FBA Holdings Inc. (6537); Innovel Solutions, Inc. (7180); Kmart Corporation (9500); MaxServ, Inc. (7626); Private Brands, Ltd. (4022); Sears Development Co. (6028); Sears Holdings Management Corporation (2148); Sears Home & Business Franchises, Inc. (6742); Sears Home Improvement Products, Inc. (8591); Sears Insurance Services, L.L.C. (7182); Sears Procurement Services, Inc. (2859); Sears Protection Company (1250); Sears Protection Company (PR) Inc. (4861); Sears Roebuck Acceptance Corp. (0535); SR – Rover de Puerto Rico, LLC (f/k/a Sears, Roebuck de Puerto Rico, Inc.) (3626); SYW Relay LLC (1870); Wally Labs LLC (None); SHC Promotions LLC (9626); Big Beaver of Florida Development, LLC (None); California Builder Appliances, Inc. (6327); Florida Builder Appliances, Inc. (9133); KBL Holding Inc. (1295); KLC, Inc. (0839); Kmart of Michigan, Inc. (1696); Kmart of Washington LLC (8898); Kmart Stores of Illinois LLC (8897); Kmart Stores of Texas LLC (8915); MyGofer LLC (5531); Sears Brands Business Unit Corporation (4658); Sears Holdings Publishing Company, LLC. (5554); Sears Protection Company (Florida), L.L.C. (4239); SHC Desert Springs, LLC (None); SOE, Inc. (9616); StarWest, LLC (5379); STI Merchandising, Inc. (0188); Troy Coolidge No. 13, LLC (None); BlueLight.com, Inc. (7034); Sears Brands, L.L.C. (4664); Sears Buying Services, Inc. (6533); Kmart.com LLC (9022); Sears Brands Management Corporation (5365); and SRe Holding Corporation (4816). The location of the Debtors' corporate headquarters is 3333 Beverly Road, Hoffman Estates, Illinois 60179.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Capitalized terms used, but not otherwise defined herein, shall have their meanings ascribed to such terms in the Application.

related relief, all as more fully set forth in the Application; and upon the declaration of Steven J. Reisman, a partner of Katten, annexed to the Application as Exhibit B (the "Reisman **Declaration**") and the declaration of Mohsin Meghii, Chief Restructuring Officer of the Debtors, attached to the Application as **Exhibit C** (the "Meghji Declaration"); and the Court being satisfied, based on the representations made in the Application and the Reisman Declaration, that Katten is "disinterested" as such term is defined in section 101(14) of the Bankruptcy Code, as modified by section 1107(b) of the Bankruptcy Code, and as required under section 327(a) of the Bankruptcy Code, and that Katten neither represents nor holds any interest adverse to the Debtors' estates with respect to the matters upon which it is to be engaged; and the Court having jurisdiction to decide the Application and the relief requested therein pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 157(a)-(b) and 1334(b) and the Amended Standing Order of Reference M-431, dated January 31, 2012 (Preska, C.J.); and consideration of the Application and the requested relief being a core proceeding pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 157(b); and venue being proper before the Court pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1408 and 1409; and due and proper notice of the relief sought in the Application and the opportunity for a hearing thereon having been provided in accordance with the Amended Case Management Order; and such notice having been adequate and appropriate under the circumstances, and it appearing that no other or further notice need be provided; and upon all of the proceedings had before the Court; and the Court having determined that the legal and factual bases set forth in the Application establish just cause for the relief granted herein and that such relief is in the best interests of the Debtors, their estates, their creditors, and all parties in interest; and after due deliberation and sufficient cause appearing therefor,

#### IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

- The Application is granted as set forth in this Order *nunc pro tunc* to April
   2019.
- 2. The Debtors are authorized, pursuant to sections 327(a) and 328(a) of the Bankruptcy Code, to engage Katten as special counsel to the Debtors *nunc pro tunc* to April 1, 2019, pursuant to the terms of the Application and the Engagement Letter, annexed hereto as **Exhibit 1.**
- 3. All of Katten's compensation as set forth in the Engagement Letter including, without limitation, the Contingency Fee Schedule, the Expenses, and related obligations are approved pursuant to section 328(a) of the Bankruptcy Code and Katten shall be compensated and reimbursed pursuant to section 328(a) of the Bankruptcy Code in accordance with the terms of, and at the times specified in, the Engagement Letter.
- 4. Katten shall apply for allowance of compensation for Services rendered and reimbursement of Expenses incurred by filing (i) short-form quarterly statements that include the amount of fees paid based on the Contingency Fee Schedule and a reasonably detailed itemization of Expenses incurred and paid and (ii) upon the conclusion of its services, a final fee application for final allowance of compensation for professional services rendered and reimbursement of expenses incurred in accordance with sections 330 and 331 of the Bankruptcy Code, the Bankruptcy Rules, the Local Rules, and any applicable orders of this Court; *provided that*, Katten shall be compensated and reimbursed pursuant to Bankruptcy Code section 328(a) and that Katten's fees and expenses shall not be subject to review under the standard set forth in section 330 of the Bankruptcy Code; *provided further that*, such fees and expenses shall be paid by the Debtors as and when due as set forth in the Engagement Letter without the need to file monthly

statements; *provided further that*, for the avoidance of doubt, such fees and expenses shall be subject to review and approval in any quarterly statements and final fee application.

- 5. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary herein, the Office of the United States Trustee for the Southern District of New York shall have the right to object to Katten's interim and final fee applications (including expense reimbursement) on all grounds, including the reasonableness standard provided in section 330 of the Bankruptcy Code.
- 6. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary, Katten shall be excused from time-keeping reporting requirements in applying for allowance of compensation for Services authorized herein.
- 7. None of the fees payable to Katten shall constitute a "bonus" or fee enhancement under applicable law.
- 8. To the extent that there may be any inconsistency between the terms of the Application, the Engagement Letter, and this Order, the terms of this Order shall govern. To the extent that there may be any inconsistency solely between the terms of the Application and the Engagement Letter, the terms of the Engagement Letter shall govern.
- 9. The relief granted herein shall be binding upon any chapter 11 trustee appointed in the chapter 11 cases, any trustee of a trust to which the Katten/Acumen Actions are assigned in connection with confirmation of a chapter 11 plan, or any chapter 7 trustee appointed in the event of a subsequent conversion of the chapter 11 cases to cases under chapter 7.
- 10. The terms and conditions of this Order are immediately effective and enforceable upon its entry.
- 11. The Debtors are authorized to take all actions necessary to effectuate the relief granted in this Order.

	12.	This Court retains e	exclusive jurisdiction with respect to all matters arising
from or relat	ed to the	e implementation, inte	erpretation, and/or enforcement of this Order.
		, 2019 New York	
			THE HONORABLE ROBERT D. DRAIN

UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY JUDGE

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#### Exhibit 1

**Engagement Letter** 

Katten Muchin Rosenman LLB

575 Madison Avenue New York, NY 10022-2585 212.940.8800 tel www.kattenlaw.com

STEVEN J. REISMAN sreisman@katten.com 212.940.8700 direct

Dated as of April 1, 2019

#### VIA EMAIL: mmeghji@miiipartners.com

Sears Holdings Corporation 3333 Beverly Road Hoffman Estates, IL 60179 Attn: Mohsin Y. Meghji Chief Restructuring Officer

Re: Engagement Agreement

Dear Mo:

We are pleased to have the opportunity to serve as special counsel for Sears Holdings Corporation and its debtor affiliates in the jointly administered chapter 11 cases of *In re Sears Holdings Corporation, et al.*, Case No. 18-23538 (RDD) (collectively, the "<u>Debtors</u>" or the "<u>Client</u>")<sup>1</sup> with regard to providing advice and representation in connection with investigating, analyzing, prosecuting and/or settling avoidance actions arising under chapter 5 of the Bankruptcy Code and/or applicable state law against non-insider, non-affiliate transferees (collectively, the "<u>Matter</u>"). As previously disclosed, we will be working with Acumen Recovery Services, LLC ("<u>Acumen</u>") on this Matter. This letter and the enclosed Terms of Engagement describe the basis on which Katten Muchin Rosenman LLP (the "<u>Firm</u>" or "<u>Katten</u>") shall provide legal services.

I will be the lawyer at the Firm with the primary responsibility for this Matter and understand that it is your expectation, as well as my own intention, that I be involved in managing all aspects of the Matter. I will be assisted by my partners Theresa Foudy, Karen Dine, Jeff Friedman, and such other partner(s), associate(s), and other member(s) of the Firm as appropriate.

Please review the enclosed Terms of Engagement, with the assistance of independent counsel if you wish, and let me know if you have any questions about them. If all the terms are satisfactory, please indicate your consent by signing this letter and returning it to me. However, your continuing instructions in this Matter will amount to your acceptance of the terms of this letter, including the Terms of Engagement (collectively the "Terms"). All parties to this agreement agree that a digital signature shall be effective to prove each party's agreement to the Terms. Furthermore, the parties agree that the Terms may be proven through an electronic copy

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> After the effective date of the Debtors' Chapter 11 plan, Client shall refer to the Liquidating Trust responsible for administering and monetizing avoidance actions.



in digital format, and that no "original" hard-copy document need be retained to prove the Terms.

As noted, Katten will be working with Acumen, a data analysis and advisory firm which focuses on data gathering, defense analysis and litigation support, in order to assist Katten in connection with investigating, analyzing, prosecuting and/or settling claims held by the Client against non-insider non-affiliate transferees arising under Section 547 of the Bankruptcy Code (collectively, the "Preference Actions" and such defendant transferees, collectively the "Transferees"). Acumen's fees and expenses shall be paid solely out of Katten/Acumen Proceeds (defined below) and shall not constitute expenses of Katten. Accordingly, the retention of Acumen will not result in any incremental fees or expenses to the Client.

It is our understanding that the Client is also retaining ASK LLP ("<u>ASK</u>") in connection with this Matter. Katten's engagement in this Matter is conditioned upon the Preference Actions being divided in the manner directed by the Debtors equally based on expected net recoveries, as determined by the Firm and Acumen in their reasonable discretion, between Katten and Acumen (together, "<u>Katten/Acumen</u>"), on the one hand, and ASK on the other hand. Preference Actions to be pursued by Katten/Acumen shall hereinafter be defined as "<u>Katten/Acumen Actions</u>", and Preference Actions to be pursued by ASK shall be defined as "<u>ASK Actions</u>". ASK and Katten/Acumen may agree to modify the list of ASK Actions and Katten/Acumen Actions with the approval of the Restructuring Committee of the Board of Directors of Sears Holdings Corporation (the "<u>Restructuring Committee</u>").

Throughout the engagement, to the extent practicable, given the circumstances of Client's chapter 11 cases, Client agrees to afford Katten and Acumen reasonable access to the Client's books and records and personnel who are knowledgeable about facts relevant to the Matter. Subject to the foregoing, Client shall reasonably cooperate, consult with, and provide all such information and documentation and access as may be reasonably requested by Katten and Acumen to enable Katten and Acumen to maximize the recovery on the Preference Actions.

Notwithstanding Paragraph IV of the Terms, Katten's fee arrangement in connection with investigating, analyzing, prosecuting and/or settling the Preference Actions shall be as set forth below:

1. Any cash proceeds obtained in connection with the Katten/Acumen Actions (collectively, the "Katten/Acumen Proceeds") shall first be used to reimburse reasonable and documented non-labor, third-party expenses and costs of Katten and Acumen directly related to the prosecution, negotiation, or collection of Katten/Acumen Actions. Katten will store all physical and electronic records without any charge. Katten will deduct such expenses and costs from Katten/Acumen



Proceeds once per month. In the event there are insufficient Katten/Acumen Proceeds in a given month to cover such expenses and costs, Katten will record the deficiency and will deduct such deficiency from Katten/Acumen Proceeds obtained in the following month(s) to the extent available. For the avoidance of doubt, Katten and Acumen will not be reimbursed for any expenses and costs exceeding Katten/Acumen Proceeds. For the avoidance of doubt, notwithstanding anything contained in the Terms, the Client, and not Katten or Acumen, shall be responsible for payment of expert witness fees and expenses. Any experts or third-party professionals who are retained to prove insolvency or to respond to a defendant's "objective" ordinary course of business defense are to be separately retained and shall not be considered part of this engagement. Katten and Acumen will defer to the Client and its other advisors with respect to the decision to retain any experts.

- 2. Katten/Acumen Proceeds shall also include, without limitation, that certain portion of a claim against the Debtors' estates that is waived or settled in connection any Katten/Acumen Action, that would—(i) be distributable to the claimant pursuant to an approved chapter 11 plan, or (ii) if no plan is approved, be the estimated recovery to the claimant pursuant to an approved plan disclosure statement—as if the claim had not been waived. For example, if a Transferee waives a \$100,000 general unsecured claim, and the distribution on such claim would (under an approved plan) or is anticipated to be (under a disclosure statement) 10%, then the Katten/Acumen Proceeds on account such claim waiver would be \$10,000. With respect to waivers or settlements involving secured claims, administrative claims and other priority claims, the amount credited as Katten/Acumen Proceeds will be equal to 100% of the scheduled, agreed or allowed amount of such claims. Katten and Acumen shall also receive credit in an amount approved by the Restructuring Committee for settlements involving payments-in-kind and other non-cash form of consideration. For the avoidance of doubt, notwithstanding the inclusion of any non-cash recovery component used in calculating Katten/Acumen Proceeds, any payment to Katten/Acumen shall be limited to the cash proceeds actually recovered from the Katten/Acumen Actions.
- 3. The contingency fees of Katten shall be paid in accordance with points 4, 5 and 6 below.
- 4. After the expenses of Katten and Acumen have been paid in full, Katten/Acumen Proceeds shall be paid to Katten as follows:
  - a. <u>Tier 1</u>: If the total gross amount of Katten/Acumen Proceeds obtained is less than \$25 million, Katten shall be paid **3.5%** of the gross proceeds obtained in



any Katten/Acumen Action settled prior to the filing of a complaint and **6.5%** of the gross proceeds obtained after the filing of a complaint.

- b. <u>Tier 2</u>: If the total gross amount of Katten/Acumen Proceeds obtained is between \$25 million and \$50 million (the "<u>Tier 2 Threshold</u>"), Katten shall be paid **6.0%** of the gross proceeds obtained in any Katten/Acumen Action settled prior to the filing of a complaint and **11.0%** of the gross proceeds obtained after the filing of a complaint, it being understood that the foregoing rates shall apply retroactively to all Katten/Acumen Proceeds obtained in connection with the Matter (*i.e.*, after the Tier 2 Threshold is achieved, the foregoing percentages shall apply to <u>all</u> Katten/Acumen Proceeds obtained, beginning with the first dollar of Katten/Acumen Proceeds obtained).
- c. <u>Tier 3</u>: If the total gross amount of Katten/Acumen Proceeds obtained is more than \$50 million, then (i) through and including the date that is eighteen (18) months after the date on which the Bankruptcy Court approves Katten's and Acumen's engagement (the "<u>Outside Date</u>"), Katten shall be paid **10.0%** of the gross proceeds obtained in any Katten/Acumen Action settled prior to the filing of a complaint and **13.0%** of the gross proceeds obtained after the filing of a complaint, and (ii) after the Outside Date, Katten shall be paid **6.0%** of the gross proceeds obtained in any Katten/Acumen Action settled prior to the filing of a complaint and **11.0%** of the gross proceeds obtained after the filing of a complaint, it being understood that the foregoing rates shall apply only to Katten/Acumen Proceeds above \$50 million.
- 5. At any time during the Firm's engagement on the Matter, the Firm may, in its sole discretion, terminate the engagement, in which case Katten shall be entitled to all fees and expenses earned as of the date of termination; provided, such fees and expenses shall be paid solely from Katten/Acumen Proceeds. The Client may, in its sole discretion, terminate the engagement. If at any time during the Firm's engagement, the Client terminates the engagement without cause, including termination caused by conversion of any case or cases with material Preference Actions to chapter 7 or appointment of a chapter 11 trustee in any such case or cases (provided that the Debtors will use their reasonable best efforts to cause the chapter 11 trustee to continue Katten's and Acumen's engagement in accordance with their respective engagement letters), Katten shall be entitled to all fees and expenses earned as of the date of termination and all fees based on recoveries in the Katten/Acumen Actions for a period extending twelve months after the date of termination ("Tail Compensation"); provided, that the Debtors may immediately terminate the engagement and Katten shall not be entitled to any such Tail Compensation if, after



execution of this agreement: (i) a determination, rule, guideline, decree, order or other statement of similar formality is issued by any court or government agency finding or recommending that Katten and/or Acumen not be permitted to serve as a professional for or advisor to a debtor, official committee, trustee or other fiduciary in a bankruptcy case, (ii) the Restructuring Committee reasonably determines that Katten and/or Acumen has generally failed to prosecute or has abandoned prosecution of the Katten/Acumen Actions, or (iii) material harm to any Debtor results from Katten's and/or Acumen's gross negligence or willful misconduct. For the avoidance of doubt, Tail Compensation shall be determined using the same compensation tiers as set forth above and in determining the amount of Tail Compensation to which Katten is entitled shall count all Katten/Acumen Proceeds received prior to Katten's termination without cause.

6. Subject to Bankruptcy Court approval, the Board of Directors of Sears Holdings Corporation (prior to the effective date of a Chapter 11 plan) and the liquidating trustee (after the effective date of a Chapter 11 plan) shall have the discretion to increase the contingency fee percentages set forth above and/or award a bonus to Katten and/or Acumen.

All Katten/Acumen Proceeds will be deposited into a segregated account maintained by Acumen. Acumen will make monthly remittances, net of Katten's and Acumen's fees and expenses, to the designated recipient. If desired, Acumen will also make wire transfers to an account designated by the Debtors. As part of the remittance, Katten and Acumen will provide monthly reports summarizing settlements received and costs incurred in the prior month and its contingency fee percentage for each collection to the Debtors, with a copy to counsel to the official committee of unsecured creditors (the "Creditors' Committee Counsel"). If Katten/Acumen is required to remit Katten/Acumen Proceeds in gross, then we expect payment of our respective invoices within 10 days of presentation, or as soon as practicable as allowed by the Bankruptcy Court. Katten and Acumen will also send monthly status reports to the Debtors, with a copy to Creditors' Committee Counsel, detailing the status of all pending cases that remain open for collection.

At Client's request, Katten may agree to provide legal services to the Client outside the scope of the Matter. Client shall compensate Katten for such services, if any, at the Firm's standard hourly rates or on other such other terms as may be agreed to between the Client and the Firm and disclosed in a supplemental affidavit filed with the Bankruptcy Court.

A schedule of the Firm's standard hourly rates is annexed as <u>Exhibit A</u>. The Firm's disbursements that are billed on a per-unit basis are annexed as <u>Exhibit B</u>. The Firm's wiring instructions are annexed as <u>Exhibit C</u> and the Firm's W-9 Taxpayer Certification is annexed as



<u>Exhibit D.</u> Katten/Acumen and ASK have, to date, provided the Restructuring Committee with information concerning the allocation of the first 1000 Transferees between ASK and Katten/Acumen and will provide the Restructuring Committee with all future allocations promptly upon their completion by ASK and Katten/Acumen, but in all events subject to approval of the Restructuring Committee.

Thank you for allowing us the privilege of this representation. We value and appreciate the trust and confidence you have placed in us and we assure you we will do our best to see that your expectations are satisfied.

My best.

Sincerely

Steven J. Reisman

w/attachments

cc: Brian Griffith (w/attachments, bgriffith@miiipartners.com)
William Murphy (w/attachments, wmurphy@miiipartners.com)
M-III Advisory Partners, LP
Ray C. Schrock, Esq. (w/attachments, ray.schrock@weil.com)
Sunny Singh, Esq. (w/attachments, sunny.singh@weil.com)
Weil, Gotshal & Manges LLP

This letter and the Terms of Engagement are agreed to and effective as of the date first written above.

SEARS HOLDINGS CORPORATION ON BEHALF OF ITSELF AND ITS DEBTOR AFFILIATES

Name Title:

M.Y. WEGHJI

C.R.O.

#### KATTEN MUCHIN ROSENMAN LLP <u>TERMS OF ENGAGEMENT</u>

The information below describes the terms that apply to the legal services provided for you by Katten Muchin Rosenman LLP (the "Firm"). We encourage you to discuss any of these Terms with us at any time. If modifications to the Terms are needed, you should discuss that with us so that agreement on changes can be reached and reduced to writing. All references to "you" or "your" means only the client or clients identified in our engagement letter. **Individuals or entities that are related to or affiliated with you, such as partners, officers, directors, stockholders, parent companies, related companies, or family members, are not clients, unless we otherwise agree in writing.** 

I. Scope of Representation. The scope of the work we will do for you is limited to the description stated in our engagement letter. Any changes or additions to the scope of our work, which we would be pleased to consider, must be agreed to and memorialized by letter or email. Unless that description states otherwise, our engagement does not include responsibility for: (1) review of your insurance policies to determine the possibility of coverage for our fees and costs or for the claim asserted against you, (2) notification of your insurance carriers about a matter, (3) advice to you about your disclosure obligations concerning a matter under the federal securities laws or any other applicable law, or (4) advice to you about tax issues that relate to a matter. If we agree to represent you in additional matters, we will do so in writing by letter or email, and the Terms of our engagement will remain the same for these additional matters unless changed by agreement in writing.

Additionally, if in response to your request or by requirement of lawful process we: testify; gather and/or produce documents; respond to document hold or production requests; or respond to any other requests in connection with possible, threatened or actual proceedings commenced by third parties that relate to our representation of you, you agree to pay us our reasonable fees and costs incurred.

- **II.** <u>Staffing.</u> Steven J. Reisman will have the primary responsibility for our relationship. We assign additional lawyers and other personnel when needed based upon the type of work and the appropriate experience level required.
- III. <u>Client Responsibilities</u>. You agree to provide us with all information that we believe is necessary or appropriate to fulfill our professional responsibilities in this Matter and to cooperate with us in matters such as fact investigation, preparation of pleadings, discovery responses, settlement conferences, etc. You will designate one or more persons to give us instructions and authority to receive our requests and inquiries. You further agree that without our express written consent, you will not use our name or the fact of your engagement of us in any form of advertising or solicitation of business.

#### IV. <u>Financial Arrangements</u>.

A. <u>Fees and Expenses</u>. Our fee and expense arrangements are set forth the engagement letter.

Expenses include items such as consultants, filing fees, court reporting fees, travel costs, overnight or other special mail services, messenger services, photocopies, long distance telephone, outgoing faxes, research service charges (e.g., LEXIS), and other special services such as document imaging. Certain of these charges are adjusted to include administrative and overhead expenses incurred by the Firm to provide the billed service. With respect to costs incurred and payable to third parties, such as court reporters, it is our usual policy to forward those bills to you for payment directly to the third party, and you agree to pay those fees directly to the provider. As an accommodation to you, however, we may advance those costs on your behalf and include them in our monthly bills. Some large disbursements may be forwarded to you for direct payment. Some charges may not be in the system at the time of monthly billing and will appear on a later bill. For the avoidance of doubt, and as set forth in the engagement letter, the Firm is not responsible for payment of expert witness fees and expenses.

- B. <u>Billing and Payment</u>. We reserve the right to terminate our representation of clients who do not pay promptly. We do not and cannot guarantee the outcome of any matter.
- **V.** <u>Electronic Communication</u>. The use of email can be an efficient means of communication, and we use it often in communicating with clients. Some clients also use instant messaging as a means of communication. However, these electronic communications can be delayed or blocked (for example, by anti-spam software) or otherwise not transmitted. You must not assume that an email or instant message sent to us was actually opened and read by us unless you receive a non-automated reply message indicating that we have read your message.
- VI. Responses to Auditors' Inquiries. We are frequently asked to provide information to auditing firms regarding client legal matters and we respond to those inquiries with the same level of care and professionalism used to handle the client's other legal work. We will accordingly charge for those services at the same rates. When you make a written request that we provide information to an auditing firm, we will deem your request to be your consent for us to disclose the requested information on your behalf. Additionally, when an auditing firm makes a written request for information on your behalf, that request will be deemed to be your consent for us to disclose that information to the auditing firm.
- VII. Conclusion of Representation. We may also terminate our representation for any reason consistent with rules of professional responsibility, including conflicts of interest or your failure to pay our fees and expenses. Our representation may also be terminated upon your request subject to the terms of the engagement letter. Following termination, any nonpublic information you have supplied to us which is retained by us will be kept confidential in accordance with applicable rules of professional responsibility. Once our representation is concluded, we will not be obligated to take any steps such as keeping track of deadlines, filing papers, pursuing appeals, or monitoring or advising you about changes in the law or circumstances that might bear upon the concluded matter.

VIII. Disposition of Client Files. Upon conclusion of your representation, we may return to you your original papers, documents and/or other property that you provided to the Firm during our engagement. You agree to accept the return of such documents and/or property. If you so request, we will also provide to you, at your expense, copies or originals of your complete file. We reserve the right to make, at our expense, copies of all documents generated or received by us in the course of our representation of you. The Firm will not provide copies or originals of the Firm Administrative or Matter Administration files pertaining to the Matter, which will be retained by the Firm. All such documents retained by the Firm, including client files (including any original documents and/or property that we attempted unsuccessfully to return to you) and Firm Administrative or Matter Administration files, will be transferred to the person responsible for administering our records retention program. For various reasons, including the minimization of unnecessary storage expenses, we reserve the right to destroy or otherwise dispose of any documents or other materials retained by us within a reasonable time, but not less than seven (7) years after the Matter is closed.

## Exhibit A Rates

<u>PROFESSIONALS</u>	STANDARD RANGE
Partner	\$785 - \$1,430
Associate	\$450 - \$930
Counsel and Special Staff	\$665 - \$1,035
Of Counsel	\$865 - \$1,205
Paralegal	\$190 - \$545

## Exhibit B Per Unit Expenses

Description	Cost per page					
Fax	\$1.60					
Photocopy Costs	\$ .20					
Photocopy – Wide Format	\$1.00					
Color Printing / Copies	\$ .25					

#### **Exhibit C**

#### **Katten Muchin Rosenman LLP Wire Instructions**

Bank: JP Morgan Chase Bank

1211 Avenue of the Americas New York, New York 10036

Attn: Mindy Drogos Phone 1-847-398-4102

Account Name: Katten Muchin Rosenman LLP

Operating Account

Bank ABA#: 021000021

Account Number: 967343933

SWIFT Code: CHASUS33

Ref: SEARS HOLDINGS CORPORATION ON BEHALF OF ITSELF AND

ITS DEBTOR AFFILIATES

#### Exhibit D Katten Muchin Rosenman LLP Form W-9

Form W-9
(Rev. November 2017)
Department of the Treasury

## Request for Taxpayer Identification Number and Certification

Give Form to the requester. Do not send to the IRS

Departr Internal	nent of the Treasury Revenue Service ► Go to www.irs.gov/FormW9 for ins	structions and the late	st infor	mati	on.			S	ena t	στ	ne IF	15.	
1 Name (as shown on your income tax return). Name is required on this line; do not leave this line blank.													
	Katten Muchin Rosenman LLP												
	2 Business name/disregarded entity name, if different from above												
Print or type. Specific Instructions on page 3.	3 Check appropriate box for federal tax classification of the person whose name is entered on line 1. Check only one of the					4 Exemptions (codes apply only to certain entities, not individuals; see							
pag	following seven boxes.					in	structio	ns o	n page	3):	luuais	, 300	
O	☐ Individual/sole proprietor or ☐ C Corporation ☐ S Corporation	Partnership	☐ Tru	ust/es	state								
oe.								Exempt payee code (if any)					
Print or type. c Instructions	Limited liability company. Enter the tax classification (C=C corporation, S=S corporation, P=Partnership) ►  Note: Check the appropriate box in the line above for the tax classification of the single-member owner. Do not check						Exemption from FATCA reporting						
nt o	LLC if the LLC is classified as a single-member LLC that is disregarded f	rom the owner unless the o	wner of t	the L	LC is		mption from FATCA reporting le (if any)						
Pri c In	another LLC that is <b>not</b> disregarded from the owner for U.S. federal tax is disregarded from the owner should check the appropriate box for the	ourposes. Otherwise, a sing	gle-memb	oer L	LC tha								
ciffi	Other (see instructions) >					(Applies to accounts maintained outside the U.S.)							
Spe	5 Address (number, street, and apt. or suite no.) See instructions.		Reques	ter's	name	and address (optional)							
See	525 West Monroe Street, Suite 1900												
0)	6 City, state, and ZIP code												
	Chicago, Illinois 60661-3693												
	7 List account number(s) here (optional)												
Par		aluan an line d ès au	ald	So	cial ee	cur	ity num	her					
backu	your TIN in the appropriate box. The TIN provided must match the nai p withholding. For individuals, this is generally your social security nu	me given on line 1 to av mber (SSN). However, f	ora	30	Tai 30		- F	T	1 Γ	_	T	$\overline{}$	
reside	nt alien, sole proprietor, or disregarded entity, see the instructions for	Part I, later. For other					-		-				
entitie TIN, la	s, it is your employer identification number (EIN). If you do not have a	number, see How to ge		or					J L	_			
	If the account is in more than one name, see the instructions for line	I. Also see What Name	and	Em	ploye	ride	entifica	tion	numbe	r			
	er To Give the Requester for guidelines on whose number to enter.						0 7	T	Ι,Τ	_ ]		,	
				3	6		2 7	9	6	5	3	2	
Par	t II Certification												
	penalties of perjury, I certify that:												
1. The	enumber shown on this form is my correct taxpayer identification num n not subject to backup withholding because: (a) I am exempt from ba	ber (or I am waiting for	a numb	er to	be is	sue	d to m	e); a	nd Intern	al F	Rever	110	
Z. Fan	vice (IRS) that I am subject to backup withholding as a result of a failu	re to report all interest	or divide	ends	, or (c	) th	e IRS I	nas r	otified	m	e tha	lam	
no	longer subject to backup withholding; and												
	n a U.S. citizen or other U.S. person (defined below); and												
4. The FATCA code(s) entered on this form (if any) indicating that I am exempt from FATCA reporting is correct.													
Certification instructions. You must cross out item 2 above if you have been notified by the IRS that you are currently subject to backup withholding because you have failed to report all interest and dividends on your tax return. For real estate transactions, item 2 does not apply. For mortgage interest paid,													
acquis	ition or abandonment of secured property, cancellation of debt, contribut	ions to an individual retir	ement a	rrand	gemer	nt (IF	RA), an	d gei	nerally.	pa	ymer	its	
other t	than interest and dividends, you are not required to sign the certification,	but you must provide you	ır correc	t TIN	I. See	the	instru	ction	s for P	art	II, late	er.	
Sign					1	١							
Here	U.S. person ►		Date >		1/3	니	14						
	neral Instructions	<ul> <li>Form 1099-DIV (diffunds)</li> </ul>	vidends	, inc	luding	the	ose fro	m st	ocks o	or n	nutua	I	
Section references are to the Internal Revenue Code unless otherwise noted.  • Form 1099-MISC (various types of income, prizes, awards proceeds)				ls,	or gr	oss							
Future developments. For the latest information about developments related to Form W-9 and its instructions, such as legislation enacted transactions by brokers)  • Form 1099-B (stock or mutual fund sales and certain of transactions by brokers)				er									
after they were published, go to www.irs.gov/FormW9.  • Form 1099-S (pro			oceeds from real estate transactions)										
Pur	Purpose of Form  • Form 1099-K (merchant card and third party network transactions) • Form 1099-K (merchant card and third party network transactions) • Form 1098 (home mortgage interest), 1098-E (student loan interest),												
All individual of entity (Form W-9 requester) who is required to the art				je in	terest	<i>),</i> 10	nag-F	(STUC	ent io	an	intere	(St),	
information return with the IRS must obtain your correct taxpayer identification number (TIN) which may be your social security number  • Form 1099-C (canceled debt)				ebt)									
(SSN), individual taxpayer identification number (ITIN), adoption • Form 1099-A (acquisition or abandonm					nme	nt of s	ecur	ed pro	pe	ty)			
taxpayer identification number (ATIN), or employer identification number (EIN), to report on an information return the amount paid to you, or other dilen), to provide your correct TIN.						ident							
	nt reportable on an information return. Examples of information s include, but are not limited to, the following.	If you do not return	n Form \	W-9	to the								
• Form 1099-INT (interest earned or paid)  be subject to backup withholding. See What is backup withholding, later.													

Cat. No. 10231X